FIRST APPEARANCE UNDER CONRIED FRIDAY NIGHT.

Cards and Flowers in Profusion Reach Madame's Rooms at the Waldorf, Though Few Visitors Reach Her.

Madame Melba is at least fifteen pounds lighter, and when she steps into the centre of the limelight on Friday night as Mimi in "La Boheme" her driends and admirers will certainly note the difference. Madame's maid isn't quite sure about the exact, metrically adjusted avairdupols reduction, out she feels certain that fifteen pounds is the minimum. And Madame smiled ac-quiescence, looking as if she wished it

Perc tweaty.
The great prima donna is otherwise herself, and looks and acts the same when she appeared at the Metropolita. Opera-House three years ago. This is her Erst season under the new impresario, Heinrich Conried. Hitherto she knew Grau and Grau knew her, much in the manner of the financiers Lawson and Greene, without the expressed serimony.

'How do you like Mr. Conried?" was waked. "Very well, very well. I think we

shall get along splendidly," said Mad-ame Melha with the smile that is sometimes seen in her Rosina. Melba arrived yesterday, after a tour

of concert singing in the New England She went directly to the Waldorf-Astoria, where she has a suit of four rooms facing Fifth avenue. Madame Melba travels alone, save for her maid, and is not burdened with animals, birds or fish

No Menagerie for Her. "It's too much trouble looking out for ots,' said the singer. "Going from

tuwn to town is bad enough without having a menagerie tied to one's tail. No. I have not cultivated that branch of art. I am a great admirer of beautiful dogs and horses-in their proper places Travelling is hard enough work as it is and I am not going to burden myself with that kind of excess baggage." Madame rested nearly all of yester

day. She is getting in trim for Friday night, when she will be heard in one of her favorite and best roles. There were plenty of cards and plenty of flowers sent to the songstress, but very few gaw her. It is not the tiresomeness that comes from talking to people that affeets the strength of Madame Melba. but she does not want to strain her voice. A lot of the visitors were po-litely told that she was "at rehearsal." just what rehearsal the maid did not know, but it served in place of the web and woof wern "not at home," and worked in most cases like two charms. But this morning there will be a real

rehearsal. "La Boheme" will be sung on the Metropolitan stage, and Melba will meet the Caruso. She has sung with the greatest tenors the world has ever known, but New York has not yet heard Melba's sirenic and pearly pure voice juxtaposed to that of the popular

"I hope I shall be at my best," said sae. "for I want to please Nev York so much. No, I shall not go so tar as to say were I not bora in Melbourne. New York would certainly have been my choice of a birthplace. But the American public has been so kind to me and I am

choice of a birthplace. But the American public has been so kind to me, and I am appreciative."

Melba used to sing "The Star Spangled Eather" to egraptured and demonstratively patriotic audiences when Roosevelt was storming the high places in faron Cuba.

Three Years' Absence.

Three Years' Absence.

"It is now three years since I have appeared in opera in this city, and since that time I have travelled many thousands of miles, gone almost round the wrild, in fact. Two years ago I crossed the Pacific and visited my aged father Melbourne. My father has several prize estatus in and near the city, and the time I spent there was one of the happiest in my life. To visit one's home after success has come your way and to see the old faces is indeed a pieasure. I went buck to Europe, and in October I returned to America for a concert tour. Then I did the same thing this year. I shall slag in opera in the Metropolitan company only for a short egnagement, and then resume my concert tour."

DAZZLING DISPLAYS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.

Lewkowitz's Two Stores Are Filled with Sparkling Gems That

All May Buy, With increased facilities at both his famous stores, one on Sixth avenue, corner Seventeenth street, and the downtown store on Grand street, cor-ner Eldridge, L Lewkowitz, for over forty years an importer of diamonds and manufacturer of jeweiry in this city, by wonderful creations in his art, is offering for the Christmas buyers an amazing array of the most desirable

is offering for the Christmas buvers an amazing array of the most desirable articles. It is possible in either of the Lewkowitz stores for one with little money to spend to purchase genuine diamonds and rich, solid gold jewelry, for the great Jaweller has solved the problem of non-distinction, and the richest and the poorest purse may be acommodated at his establishments.

In silverware, clocks and optical goods an endless variety is shown at aston-shingly low prices.

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Selling at factory prices with only the manufacturer's profit, with the third brofit knocked entirely off, Mr. Lewkowitz bas built up an immense business that he holds and each season finds new batrons by the thousand for the Lewkowitz houses.

Fine Glamonds, not of the chip variety that other than a manufacturer must sell, to profit, at \$15 or \$20, can be bought of Lewkowitz for B, the factory prices, A solid gold locket with sniendid diamond may be had at \$5.50, when a could doubtless coat doubte from other than a direct importer.

Articles in limitless number might be mentioned and similarly compared, for the supply that can be seen for the coming holidays is one of the most complete and finest in the forty-four years, history of the Lewkowitz

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Saturday! New Books containing 50 "S. & H." Green Trading

Stamps will be distributed FREE on every floor of the Siegel Cooper

These are extra and will be given in addition to the double stamps in the morning and single stamps until closing hour which regularly accompany purchases in The Big Store.

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An Umbrella for Christmas is a ways acceptable. They're a perpetual reminder of the giver, and with their serviceableness it is difficult to decide upon anything more appropriate for a friend or relative.

We are offering a high class Umbrella which other stores are selling at \$5.00, in a large variety of gilt or sterling mounted handles, at

Coverings are of a guaranteed grade of Union Siik-26-inch size for women and 28-inch size for men-frames, rods and fittings are first quality throughout.

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To-morrow we shall place on sale a new assortment of Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, the initial kind, many lots hand embroidered, at prices most inviting to Christmas shoppers.

Our display is the largest of any store in New York and our prices the lowest. Inspection of this special line of Handkerchief's positively will be of interest to shoppers. They will find in our Handkerchief Store such a variety, so prettily boxed. ndkerchief shopping becomes a pleasure.

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10c	FOR 12½c., Lie., 25c. WO- MEN'S ALL LINEN LACE EDGE: AND SWISS EM- SHOIDERED HANDKER- CHIEFS: all new designs.
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(Main Floor, Cantre, 18th St.; Front and Centre, 19th St., Second Floor, Front and Centre.)

Christmas Bric-a-Brac.

Singularly unique and interesting both from grade of porcelain and glazing and the broad diversity of styles and designs. Showings eminent for holiday greetings. Shewings eminent for holiday greetings.

VIENNA DECORATED
VASES, regularly \$2.00; at
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regularly \$2.00; at
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OLD DUTCH DECORATED
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GLASS, 65c. to
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Warm Fur Robes For Baby's Carriage

When visiting the Carpet and Rug Stores on the Fifth Floor don't forget the babies.

1.49. 2.25, 2.75 and 3.75

At these prices the Robes are of exceptional value. Cualities are all good and warm and finished excellently.

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BOUCHE FILS & CO.'S IMPORTED PRINCE CHAMPAGNE, Extra Dry or CHAMPAGNE at a saving of \$5.00 a case. Brut, perfect quality, na ural formentation Case 12 QUARTS, 25.00 pints, 27.00 QUARTS, 11.50 Pints, 13.50

Special Bargains in Fine California Wines.

PORT, SHERRY and MUSCATEL;
10 years oid, as fine wine as each be had anywhere at \$3.00; for 1.76
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PORT, SHERRY, MUSCATEL and TOKAY; fine oid private stock; 1.45
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OLD COLONIAL PORT, SHER, RY and SWEET CATAWBA; 1.15
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pure wines, per gallon.

SHERRY, PORT and CATAWBA; special; per gallon.

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STANDARD CLARET and MON-OPOLE RESILING; superior table 63c wines; per gallon.

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These Unparalleled Values in Domestic Cased Wines. Co.ebrate Queen Quality IMPERIAL ZINFANDEL. Wines.

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ST. ESTEPHE: case. 12 quarts.
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CHAT. MOUTON: case. 12 quarts.
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Also These Sreat Reductions on Finest Liquors.

2-Star (Imported) COGNAC—Ch. Ferrand & Co.; per case, 14.75; per bottle, 1.25 & Co.; per case, 14.75; per bottle, 1.25 per case, 10.65; per bottle, 1.25 per case, 10.65; per bottle, 1.25 per case, 1











Beautiful Rings Set With Precious Stones Are Here. Pearls, Turquoises. Opals, Fancy and Cluster and Signet Rings for men and women are profusely displayed in this department in all their glittering glory. There isn't an idea that has attained popularity that cannot be found. Indeed, we show many exclusive designs that are particularly effective

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NO. 1—WOMEN'S PEARL RINGS. Tiffany settings. like cut, with two large imita- 4.00 beautiful stone and heavy Roman gold. 6.00 choice of several designs.

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Our selection of rings of all kinds and designs is vastly superior to any other and we carry a







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Toy Town is agog with interest! Everything going! Excitement and fun in every street, on every corner! Crowds throng every avenue! Toys are steadily and rapidly going Santaward to fill the sack of old St. Nicholas and load

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RUSSIAN GRAY SQUIRREL PELERINES, lined with gray satin 7.50 and trimmed with crocheted ornaments,
SHAPELY PILLOW MUFFS to match above, lined with gray
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SABLED SQUIRREL FOUR-IN-HAND SCARFS. 60 inches long and made from well matched skins, satin lined, SHAPELY PILLOW MUFFS to match above.

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NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER STORE A CITY IN ITSELF NEW YORK.

Christmas Dinners at Little Expense. Delivered to our customers who live on Manhattan Island between the Battery

and 135th Street. A menu that means a good appetizing dinner.

Those who desire to extend their gratuities to the deserving and needy with no delivery trouble and at little expense can do so by cutting out this advertisemen.

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Thursday night, December 22. No C. O. D. orders will be accepted.

The price is astonishingly low. Baskets will be delivered on Saturday, December 24th. Our wonderful facilities enable us to place no limit this year on the number of hader to be said. of baskets to be sold.

basiets to be sold.

1 Dry picked chicken, about 4 lbs.
1 Large can pumpkin.
1 Can string beans.
1 Can baked beans, tomato sauce.
1 Pound mixed nuts.
1 Can Campbell's condensed soup.
1 Quart potatoes.
1 Can plum pudding.
14 Pound Coffee.
1 Pound table raisins.
1 Package soda blacuits.
2 Pound eandy.
2 Pound mixed cakes.
1 Quart white onloss.
1 Full Size Package Tryphosa jelly powder.

The Entire Dinner, 1.50

(Grocery Department, Fourth Floor.)

Christmas Silverware for Every Member of the Family.

Not even the baby is forgotten in this list. For men and women such desirable and unique gifts as lnk Wells. Jewel Cases, Manicure Pieces, etc., are displayed in profusion, and priced in a way that will please all



INK WELLS—Fine gilt or silver finish: many designs to select from, 25e to 5.00 STERLING SILVER MANICURE PIECES—Extra heavy handles, in flow-er or head designs, each, 25e, 30e., 50e.

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Mission Rockers and Arm Chairs are superb Christmas presents, their serviceableness making them welcome in every home. We have an elaborate showing. They are all substantially constructed of solid oak with weathered oak finish are large size, and are admirably designed in the quaint and copular Mission pattern.

Mission Rocker or Arm Chair, 8.00

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AT THREE DOLLARS. Boys' Jack-Tar Reefers.

The very popular and stylish coat, made of heavy-weight Blue Cheviot, red flannel lining. embroidered emblem on sleeve, velvet collar; larger sizes with lapel Boys' Russian Overcoat.

Sizes 21/2 to 7 Years. Very nobby for the little boy, in the most select of co'ors, navy, olive, Cam-

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Sizes 21/4 to 9 Years. The popular Russian Blouse. Eton Sailor Suits.

all the solid colorings and many new mixtures and overplaids, exclusive de-

Fancy House Baskets. A Handsome Holiday Offering.

This handsome display of Fancy Braided Baskets was especially imported from Germany and Japan for this Christmas offering and as such comprises the most unique showing of lancy work from foreign shores to be found in the United States. FANCY SCRAP
BASKETS of braided fancy straw of
rush, with assorted
corded willows,
height in 22c

BASKETS of fine
braided straw, transmed with fancy colcolors.

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BASKETS
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